

**§ 51.28 Identity of applicant.**

(a) If the applicant is not personally known to the official receiving the application he or she shall establish his or her identity by the submission of a previous passport, other identifying documents or by an identifying witness.

(b) If an applicant submits an application under the provisions of paragraph (c) of § 51.21 he or she must submit a prior passport with his or her application.

(c) Any official receiving an application for a passport or any Passport Issuing Office may require such additional evidence of identity as may be deemed necessary.

(22 U.S.C. 2658 and 3926)

[33 FR 12043, Aug. 24, 1968, as amended at SD-165, 46 FR 2343, Jan. 9, 1981; 49 FR 16989, Apr. 23, 1984]

**§ 51.30 Persons unacceptable as witnesses.**

The passport issuing office will not accept as witness to a passport application a person who has received or expects to receive a fee for his services in connection with executing the application or obtaining the passport.

**§ 51.31 Affidavit of identifying witness.**

(a) An identifying witness shall execute an affidavit stating: That he or she resides at a specific address; that he or she knows or has reason to believe that the applicant is a citizen of the United States; the basis of his or her knowledge concerning the applicant; and that the information set out in his or her affidavit is true to the best of his or her knowledge and belief.

(b) If the witness has a U.S. passport, he or she shall state the place of issue and, if possible, the number and approximate date of issue.

(c) The identifying witness shall subscribe to his or her statement before the same person who took the passport application.

(22 U.S.C. 2658 and 3926)

[31 FR 13540, Oct. 20, 1966, as amended at 31 FR 14522, Nov. 11, 1966; 49 FR 16989, Apr. 23, 1984]

**§ 51.32 Passport amendments.**

Except for the convenience of the U.S. Government, no passport will be amended.

[70 FR 53924, Sept. 13, 2005]

**§ 51.33 Release of passport information.**

Information in passport files is subject to the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and the Privacy Act. Release of this information may be requested in accordance with the implementing regulations set forth in Subchapter R, Part 171 or Part 172 of this title.

(22 U.S.C. 2658 and 3926; 5 U.S.C. 552, 552a)

[61 FR 29940, June 13, 1996]

**Subpart C—Evidence of U.S. Citizenship or Nationality****§ 51.40 Burden of proof.**

The applicant has the burden of proving that he or she is a national of the United States.

[66 FR 29907, June 4, 2001]

**§ 51.41 Documentary evidence.**

Every application shall be accompanied by evidence of the U.S. nationality of the applicant.

[66 FR 29907, June 4, 2001]

**§ 51.43 Persons born in the United States applying for a passport for the first time.**

(a) *Primary evidence of birth in the United States.* A person born in the United States in a place where official records of birth were kept at the time of his or her birth shall submit with the application for a passport a birth certificate under the seal of the official custodian of birth records. To be acceptable, a certificate must show the full name of the applicant place and date of birth, and that the record thereof was recorded at the time of birth or shortly thereafter.

(b) *Secondary evidence of birth in the United States.* If the applicant cannot submit primary evidence of birth, he or she shall submit the best obtainable secondary evidence. If a person was born at a place in the United States

when birth records were filed, he or she must submit a “no record” certification from the official custodian of such birth records before secondary evidence may be considered. The passport issuing office will consider, as secondary evidence, baptismal certificates, certificates of circumcision, or other documentary evidence created shortly after birth but not more than 5 years after birth, and/or affidavits of persons having personal knowledge of the facts of the birth.

(22 U.S.C. 2658 and 3926)

[38 FR 4667, Feb. 20, 1973, as amended at 49 FR 16989, Apr. 23, 1984]

**§ 51.44 Persons born abroad applying for a passport for the first time.**

(a) *Naturalization in on right.* A person naturalized in his or her own right as a U.S. citizen shall submit with his or her application his or her certificate of naturalization.

(b) *Derivative citizenship at birth.* (1) An applicant who claims to have derived citizenship by virtue of his or her birth abroad to a U.S. citizen parent or parents may submit his or her won certificate of citizenship (Section 1993, Revised Statutes, as amended by Act of May 24, 1934; section 201 of the Nationality Act of 1940; section 301 of the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952).

(2) In lieu of a certificate of citizenship, the applicant may submit evidence of his or her parent(s)’ citizenship at the time of his or her birth, and evidence of his or her and his or her parent(s)’ residence and physical presence in the United States. The passport issuing office may require the applicant to establish the marriage of his or her parents and/or grandparents and his or her relationship to them.

(c) *Derivative citizenship subsequent to birth.* (1) An applicant who claims U.S. citizenship by virtue of the naturalization of his or her parent or parents subsequent to his or her birth may submit his or her own certificate of citizenship.

(2) In lieu of a certificate of citizenship the applicant may submit the naturalization certificate of the parent or parents through whom he or she claims U.S. citizenship. In this case, he or she must also show that he or she resided in the United States during minority

as required by the law under which he or she claims citizenship.

(3) If an applicant claims citizenship through a mother who resumed citizenship or parent who was repatriated, he or she must submit evidence thereof. The applicant must establish also that he or she resided in the United States for the period prescribed by law.

(22 U.S.C. 2658 and 3926)

[31 FR 13540, Oct. 20, 1966, as amended at 49 FR 16989, Apr. 23, 1984]

MARRIED WOMEN

**§ 51.45 Marriage to an alien prior to March 2, 1907.**

A woman citizen of the United States who married an alien prior to March 2, 1907, did not lose her U.S. citizenship unless she acquired as a result of the marriage the nationality of her husband and thereafter took up a permanent residence abroad prior to September 22, 1922.

**§ 51.46 Marriage to an alien between March 2, 1907, and September 22, 1922.**

(a) A woman citizen of the United States who married an alien between March 2, 1907, and September 22, 1922, lost her U.S. citizenship, except as provided in paragraph (b) of this section. At the termination of the marital relation she could resume her U.S. citizenship, if abroad, by registering as a U.S. citizen within 1 year with a Consul of the United States, or by returning to reside in the United States, or, if resident in the United States, by continuing to reside therein. (Section 3 of the Act of March 2, 1907.)

(b) A woman citizen of the United States who married an alien between April 6, 1917, and July 2, 1921, did not lose her citizenship, if the marriage terminated by death or divorce prior to July 2, 1921, or if her husband became a U.S. citizen prior to that date. She may establish her citizenship by proving her U.S. citizenship prior to marriage and the termination of the marriage or acquisition of U.S. citizenship by her husband prior to July 2, 1921.